DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR
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NEA PRESS BRIEFING PAPER

January 24, 1978

ARMS SALES TO THE MIDDLE EAST

Q.- ~~Is the U.S.~~ going to sell F-15s to Saudi Arabia, F-16s to Israel and F-5s to Egypt?
No decisions have yet been made on these subjects

A. --We are currently engaged in a review of all pending requests for major arms sales that foreign governments have submitted to us. This review relates to our announced policy of seeking to reduce the worldwide level of arms sales this fiscal year. When the review is completed, we will be in a better position to comment on the status of specific requests from other governments for arms sales.

~~--As you are aware, we have been consulting informally with Members of Congress regarding the possible sale of arms to selected countries in the Middle East.~~

Clearance: NEA - Mr. Sober
NEA/ARP - Mr. Twinam
PM/SAS - Mr. Keene
NEA/EGY - Mr. Zweifel

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